United Nations A/56/704

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 December 2001
English
Original: Arabic

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda items 59 and 60

Strengthening of the United Nations system

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Letter dated 10 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

We should like to inform you that, in its commitment to improving the working procedures of the General Assembly and rationalizing its agenda, my country decided that, with effect from the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, the item entitled "Elimination of coercive measures as a means of political and economic compulsion" should be considered every two years. Accordingly, the item was last considered at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly and was to have been included in the agenda of the fifty-seventh session in 2002.

On consulting General Assembly resolution 55/285 of 7 September 2001, entitled "Revitalization of the General Assembly; improving the efficiency of the General Assembly", we noted that in paragraph 11 of the annex to the resolution it is stated that the item in question will continue to be considered biennially, at even-numbered sessions. This would mean that the item would not be discussed at the next session, as was decided by the General Assembly last year.

While I assure you that my country remains committed to its position that the item should be considered every two years, the importance of its subject matter to us in particular and to the other States Members of the United Nations that approved the resolution adopted under the item at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly by an overwhelming majority requires me to inform you that my country wishes to adhere to the decision of the General Assembly in its resolution 55/6 of 26 October 2000 to include the item in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session and that we support its subsequent consideration every two years at odd-numbered sessions of the General Assembly.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Abuzed Omar **Dorda**
Permanent Representative

01-69544 (E) 131201 131201